

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
USIA-06 AID-05 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 TRSE-00  
XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04 EPG-02 SIL-01 OMB-01 AGRE-00  
STR-04 DHA-02 ACDA-07 IO-13 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-07  
NEA-10 /149 W  
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R 300903Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5113

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USMISSION USBERLIN UNN

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E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, GE

SUBJECT: SED 6TH PLENUM EMPHASIZES GDR ECONOMY

SUMMARY: ECONOMIC THEMES DOMINATED THE 6TH PLENUM OF THE  
SED CENTRAL COMMITTEE JUNE 23. A POLITBURO REPORT DELIVERED  
BY POLITBURO SECRETARY GERHARD GRUENEBERG ASSIGNED PRIME  
IMPORTANCE TO INCREASED PRODUCTIVITY AND MAXIMAL EXPLOITATION  
OF GDR DOMESTIC RESOURCES. IT ALSO SINGLED OUT THE  
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ELECTRONICS INDUSTRY AS THE KEY TO FUTURE GDR ECONOMIC  
PERFORMANCE, CRUCIAL TO EFFORTS TO RAISE PRDUCITIVITY  
IN THE ECONOMY AS A WHOLE. THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE DROVE  
THE POINT HOME BY ISSUING A SEPARATE REPORT ON THE  
ELECTRONICS INDUSTRY. ON JUNE 27 A NEUES DEUTSCHLAND  
LEAD EDITORIAL SUMMED UP THE RESULTS OF THE MEETING.  
END SUMMARY.

1. PRINCIPAL POINTS DEALT WITH IN THE 6TH PLENUM INCLUDED THE FOLLOWING: GDR ECONOMY: THE POLITBURO REPORT STRESSES THE NEED TO MAKE INCREASED USE OF DOMESTICALLY AVAILABLE "SECONDARY" RESOURCES DUE TO PRICE RISES IN THE CAPITALIST STATES FOR IMPORTED INDUSTRIAL AND AGRICULTURAL RAW MATERIALS, AND CONCEDES THAT RAW MATERIAL PRICES HAVE ALSO INCREASED IN TRADE AMONG THE SOCIALIST STATES. GROWTH THUS DEPENDS ON HIGHER ECONOMIC EFFICIENCY AND PRODUCTION OF HIGHER QUALITY PRODUCTS WITH LESS MATERIAL, THE REPORT CONCLUDES. IT URGES THAT THE DEVELOPMENT OF RAW MATERIAL SUBSTITUTES MUST TAKE PRECEDENCE OVER PRIMARY RAW MATERIALS.

2. ECONOMIC EFFICIENCY AND GROWTH ARE ALSO ASSIGNED A KEY ROLE IN SED POLITICAL WORK: THE POLITBURO REPORT URGES THAT PLAN FULFILLMENT BECOME "THE MEASURE OF ALL THINGS" IN PARTY WORK, AND THAT THE POLITICAL EFFECTIVENESS OF PARTY MEMBERS BE JUDGED ACCORDING TO THEIR APPROACH TO SOLVING ECONOMIC PROBLEMS.

3. IN A SEPARATE REPORT BY OTFRIED STEGER, GDR MINISTER FOR ELECTROTECHNICS AND ELECTRONICS, THE IMPORTANCE OF THE ELECTRONICS INDUSTRY IS UNDERSCORED. AN ND EDITORIAL OF JUNE 27 GIVES CONCISE RECAPITULATION LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OF THE MAIN POINTS OF STEGER'S REPORT. THE EDITORIAL NOTES THAT 480,000 GDR WORKERS ARE EMPLOYED IN ELECTRONICS WHICH, ALONG WITH THE MACHINERY INDUSTRY, FORMS THE PRINCIPAL BASIS OF THE GDR EXPORT SECTOR. THE ND EDITORIAL ASSIGNS PARTICULAR IMPORTANCE TO MICROELECTRONICS AS AN AREA THROUGH WHICH TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCES COME RAPIDLY INTO OTHER BRANCHES OF THE ECONOMY, THEREBY INCREASING PRODUCTIVITY.

4. FRG-GDR RELATIONS: THE POLITBURO REPORT IS MODERATELY UPBEAT ON RELATIONS WITH WEST GERMANY, REPEATING THE FAMILIAR ASSERTION THAT PROGRESS CAN BE MADE ONLY IF THE FRG LIVES UP TO EXISTING TREATIES AND AGREEMENTS AND ACCEPTS THE EXISTENCE OF TWO SOVEREIGN GERMAN STATES. THE REPORT STATES THAT THE GDR IS FOR DEVELOPING RELATIONS WITH THE FRG AS WITH OTHER WESTERN STATES ON THE BASIS OF PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE AND HELSINKI. IT URGES THAT WHAT HAS BEEN ATTAINED THUS FAR BE SECURED AND THAT NEW STEPS BE TAKEN ON THE BASIS OF EQUALITY AND MUTUAL ADVANTAGE.

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R 300903Z JUN 77  
FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN  
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5. THE QA: THE POLITUBOR REPORT EMPLOYS THE 1973  
BRANDT-BREZHNEV FORMULATION IN ADVOCATING THE " STRICT  
OBSERVANCE AND FULL IMPLEMENTATION" OF THE QA, AND NOTES  
THAT THE GDR IS FOR A CONSTRUCTIVE APPROACH TO THE  
AGREEMENT. HOWEVER, IT IMPLIES A GDR ROLE IN QA MATTERS  
BY WARNING THA THE GDR REMAINS OPPOSED TO ALL ATTEMPTS  
TO UNDERMINE THE AGREEMENT AND WILL CONTINUE  
TO PROTECT ITS INTERESTS.

6. HUMAN RIGHTS: THE REPORT PRESENTS A SIMPLIFIED  
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AND LAUDATORY VIEW OF GDR OBSERVANCE OF HUMAN RIGHTS. STRESSING FOR EXAMPLE RIGHT TO WORK PROVISIONS IN THE GDR'S NEW LEGAL CODE. IT ACCUSES ENEMIES OF DETENTE OF USING HUMAN RIGHTS TO PRESENT THEMSELVES AS " APOSTLES OF RIGHT AND LAW" WHILE THEY OVER LOOK HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN THE CAPITALIST COUNTRIES. THESE PEOPLE SPEAK OF HUMAN RIGHTS, THE REPORT ARGUES, BUT AT THE SAME TIME BURDEN THEIR OWN POPULATIONS WITH DANGEROUS NEW WEAPONS. THE REPORT MAINTAINS THAT DISARMAMENT IS THUS THE MOST IMPORTANT NEXT STEP IN DETENTE. IN TREATING THE HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUE, IT DOES NOT SINGLE OUT THE US SPECIFICALLY FOR CRITICISM.

7. FOREIGN AFFAIRS: SECTIONS OF THE POLITBURO REPORT DEALING WITH FOREIGN AFFAIRS PLACE PARTICULAR EMPHASIS ON AFRICA. MENTION IS MADE OF POLITBURO LAMBERZ' RECENTLY CONCLUDED VISIT TO AFRICA AND A MAY GDR WEEK OF AFRICAN SOLIDARITY. AFRICA IS DESCRIBED AS HAVING OCCUPIED A SPECIAL PLACE IN CUBAN-GDR TALKS DURING CASTOR'S VISIT TO EAST BERLIN IN MARCH. THE REPORT STATES THAT THE CASTRO VISIT DEMONSTRATED THE RESOLVE OF CUBA AND THE GDR TO INCREASE COOPERATION IN FOREIGN POLICY AND STRENGTHEN THE ALLIANCE BETWEEN THE SOCIALIST STATES AND THE PEOPLES OF AFRICA, LATIN AMERICA AND ASIA.

8. THE REPORT ALSO PLAYS UP GDR CONTACTS WITH WESTERN COUNTRIES, PARTICULARLY POLITBURO MEMBER HERMANN AXEN'S RECENT VISIT TO PARIS AND SINDERMANN'S TRIP TO FINLAND. THE US IS NOT MENTIONED IN THIS SECTION. THE REPORT NOTES THAT THE GDR HAS NOW BEEN RECOGNIZED BY 123 STATES.

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9. COMMENT: THE JYTH PLENUM AMOUNTS TO A CALL TO ARMS FOR INCREASED PRODUCTIVITY TO COUNTER THE CURRENT SQUEEZE ON THE GDR ECONOMY CAUSED BY INCREASED RAW MATERIAL PRICES. BETTER UTILIZATION OF DOMESTIC RESOURCES, IMPROVED MANAGEMENT, GREATER ATTENTION TO POLITICAL REWARD FOR ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE, AND TECHNOLOGICAL IMPROVEMENTS THROUGH THE ELECTRONICS INDUSTRY FORM ELEMENTS OF A CAMPAIGN THAT REPRESENTS A STEPPING UP OF CONTINUING REGIME EFFORTS TO RAISE PRODUCTION. THE REPORT GIVES NO SIGN OF A CHANGE IN THE GDR'S COMMITMENT TO STABLE PRICES FOR BASIC GOODS AND SERVICES.

10. THE MODERATE TONE TOWARD THE FRG IN THE POLITBURO REPORT INDICATES CONTINUED GDR INTEREST IN PURSUING A NEW ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE WEST GERMANS.

THE ABSENCE OF DIRECT CRITICISM OF THE US ON HUMAN  
RIGHTS OR BELGRADE INDICATES THAT THE GDR'S SHORT-LIVED  
NEGATIVE REACTION TO THE PRESIDENT'S CSCE REPORT IS  
NOT BEING PURSUED.  
POLANSKY

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## Message Attributes

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CENTRAL COMMITTEE JUNE 23. A POLITBURO REPORT  
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